

09/856903

JC18 Rec'd PCT/PTO 29 MAY 2001

PATENTS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Paul MALLO et al.

Serial No. (unknown)

Filed herewith

NOVEL ALKANOLAMIDE-FREE  
THICKENING LATEX

A/H5  
23/09/01  
NS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to the first Official Action and calculation of the filing fee, please substitute Claims 1-13 as originally filed, with Claims 1-12 as filed in the Article 34 amendment of December 8, 2000. The pages containing Claims 1-12 are marked "AMENDED SHEET" and are attached hereto. Following the insertion of Claims 1-12, please amend these claims as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend claim 3 as follows:

AI  
--3. (Amended) Process as defined in claim 1, in which the polymerization reaction is initiated with a redox couple which generates hydrogen sulfite ions ( $\text{HSO}_3^-$ ), such as the cumene hydroperoxide/sodium metabisulfite ( $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_5$ ) couple or the cumene hydroperoxide/thionyl chloride ( $\text{SOCl}_2$ ) couple, at a temperature of less than or equal to  $10^\circ\text{C}$ , if desired, supplemented with a polymerization coinitiator, such as azobis (isobutyronitrile) (AIBN).